

TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC UPDATES

SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS  
IMPROVING PUBLIC SERVICES



CITY STREETS, SIDEWALKS, STORM sewers, street lights, parks and other recreational areas require upgrades. The City issues special assessments to help fund the construction of public improvements. By law, a special assessment may be issued when a municipality requires a specially assessed improvement or a property owner petitions for a public improvement.

When a special assessment funds a project, the City sells bonds to cover the project cost and then pays off the bonds by collecting funds from property owners who benefited from the project. A property owner may pay the assessment immediately or spread payments over a specified time period. The assessment with interest is then included on the owner's property tax statement.

The City's Pavement Management Program (PMP) routinely uses special assessments. The PMP, in place for 14 years, takes the appropriate action at the optimum time for maintaining City streets using a database of all City-owned streets. When a street is scheduled for reconstruction as part of the PMP, special assessments pay 25 percent of the cost. In addition to reconstruction, overlays and sealcoats are included in the PMP, but are not assessed at this time.

For more information, contact Jen Desrude at 952-563-4862, e-mail [jdesrude@ci.bloomington.mn.us](mailto:jdesrude@ci.bloomington.mn.us) or visit the City's Web site at [www.ci.bloomington.mn.us](http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us), keyword: Pavement management.

REDUCING CONGESTION, IMPROVING SAFETY  
EAST BUSH LAKE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS BEGIN

IMPROVEMENTS ARE UNDERWAY AT 84th Street and East Bush Lake Road that will reduce congestion and improve safety. Construction of additional lanes, enhanced signals, and additional sidewalks and bikeways began in June and is scheduled for completion next spring. The project is funded from a variety of sources including federal, county and City dollars. During the majority of construction, one lane of traffic in each direction will remain open. For more information, visit the special projects section on the home page of the City's Web site at [www.ci.bloomington.mn.us](http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us).



**NEW TOOL FOR MOTORISTS**  
For an easy-to-remember link to current road construction, visit [www.cityroads.info](http://www.cityroads.info).

MAC TO CLOSE RUNWAY FOR RECONSTRUCTION  
RESIDENTS WILL EXPERIENCE IMPACT FROM AUGUST TO OCTOBER



THIS SUMMER AND FALL, RESIDENTS LIVING NEAR THE Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP) will notice a change in aircraft flight patterns. MSP's south parallel runway, where flights approach and depart over Minneapolis and Eagan, will close for reconstruction, beginning August 13. During the two-month closure, crosswind Runway 4/22 over Bloomington and Runway 17/35 will be used for additional arrivals and departures. For more information, visit Metropolitan Airports Commission's (MAC) airport noise Web site at [www.macnoise.com](http://www.macnoise.com), or call MAC at 712-725-6455 or Carolyn Lane, City of Bloomington, at 952-563-8948.

LOCAL STREET TRAFFIC CONCERNS  
OPEN HOUSES TO BE HELD



ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT THE TRAFFIC ON YOUR LOCAL STREET? THE CITY'S TRAFFIC Management Program uses techniques to try to alleviate neighborhood traffic concerns. Two neighborhoods will be selected for the 2008 program that was approved by the City Council. An open house will be held **Monday, September 24, 5 - 7 p.m.**, in the Public Works Training Room, 1700 W. 98th St. For more information, call Paul L. Jarvis at 952-563-4548.

ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING  
A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

BLOOMINGTON IS CURRENTLY CREATING AN ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN THAT will encourage more sustainable transportation options, reduce motorized traffic, and provide recreational and exercise opportunities. Alternative transportation includes walking, bicycling, personal transportation assistance devices, rollerblading and mass transit such as light rail and bus.

To gather public input, a community open house will be held on **Thursday, August 16, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**, in the Council Chambers at Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road. Public input will also be solicited through a citizen task force, focus groups, e-mail and written comments, and an online survey. A draft of the plan will be reviewed at an open house this fall.

There is still time to participate in the initial needs assessment. Make your opinion and ideas known by taking the **Bloomington Alternative Transportation Plan Survey**, available **August 10 - 31**. To participate, visit the City's Web site at [www.ci.bloomington.mn.us](http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us), keywords: Alternative transportation, or pick up a survey at the Parks and Recreation office in Bloomington Civic Plaza.

For more information, call Randy Quale at 952-563-8877 or visit the City's Web site. E-mail comments to [parksrec@ci.bloomington.mn.us](mailto:parksrec@ci.bloomington.mn.us).



NEW LOOK AND  
IMPROVED USABILITY  
CHECK OUT CITYWEB

THE CITY'S REDESIGNED WEB SITE, CityWEB, recently went live. Sidebars and photos give an upbeat message to the site's 250,000 annual visitors.

The redesign provides better access to City information, including several search methods:

- An expanded A-to-Z index.
- A search by keyword function on each page.
- Major services located in a pull-down menu on the home page.
- A new FAQ section.

You'll find expanded City Council history and statistics pages, as well as a new section that provides addresses, maps, hours and functions for more than 25 facilities. The top 10 requested pages are still a click away.

View what's happening around Bloomington. Try these tools:

- **Construction projects** – Choose a specific address and see what projects are underway, including development, street construction and utility work in the rights-of-way.
- **Property information** – Enter a parcel and see who owns the property, its size, or its zoning and historical significance.
- **Sealcoating (seasonal)** – Look for weekly updates on sealcoating of streets throughout Bloomington.
- **Street sweeping (seasonal)** – Each April, City crews spiff up our roads.
- **Zoning information** – View a parcel's zoning designation with a link to the City Code's zoning descriptions.
- **LOGIS 90-Day crime map** – View crimes committed in Bloomington within the last 90 days.

For more information, call Jan Norbeck at 952-563-4929.

CIVIC PLAZA NOW A  
WI-FI HOTSPOT  
LOG ON FOR FREE

THE CITY RECENTLY INSTALLED A Wi-Fi network at Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road. When visiting the facility, surfers may log on to the Internet at no cost using their own



mobile devices. For more information, contact Amy Cheney at 952-563-4877 or e-mail [acheney@ci.bloomington.mn.us](mailto:acheney@ci.bloomington.mn.us).